

Speaker: Raymond McGahie
Date: 6th December 09
Readings: Luke 5v12-13,v16-26
John 3v2-4, v14-16

Throughout history there have been many rescue missions.

The greatest rescue mission was announced in Luke, “[Fear not for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy](#)”. God sent His Son from heaven that He might rescue men and women from sin and bring them back to himself. This followed as a result of the greatest disaster, the pollution in our hearts, the virus of sin.

“[All have sinned](#)”(Rom 3:23)

“[There is none righteous no not one](#)” (Rom 3:10)

Sin separates us from God's heaven. God is holy yet He is a God of love.

1. Leprosy is a picture of sin. No one intends to end up a bad sinner but it starts small. The Lord stretched out His hand and the leper was cleansed immediately. The minute we put our faith and trust in the Lord Jesus He cleanses our hearts and saves us.

2. The paralysed man's friends were so interested in him they brought him to Jesus. They were not put off by the crowds. When the Lord looked on the man He saw his faith and He saw his greatest need. “[Thy sins are forgiven](#)”

It is a tremendous thing to know your sins forgiven and that you are part of God's family.

The Lord Jesus cleanses the heart and forgives sin. The greatest problem in our life is the sin in our heart.

“[What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?](#)” (Mark 8:36)

3. Nicodemus was a rich well respected leader. He was fanatical about the law of God. He was the top of a religious ladder(against the wrong wall).

“[Except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.](#)” These words struck Nicodemus to the core. He asked how can a man be born again? Nicodemus didn't ask why but how.

There was a need for repentance and a new life inside, not just patching up the old.

There had to be a look of faith. On the cross of Calvary Jesus died for us, everyone who puts their faith in Him will be forgiven.

John 1:12

The Lord Jesus has died to be our Saviour. Salvation is so simple. You ask for forgiveness, you'll receive new life.